



MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In January

Task of the Month

**Lower thermostat
2° during the day,
4° overnight***

The longer your home remains
at a lower temperature, the
MORE YOU SAVE
and the longer your furnace will last

You can save 2% on your heating
bills for each 2° you turn down your
thermostat for 8 hours per day



For example:
if your heating bill is \$400 and you
turn your thermostat down just 2°F
during the day and 4°F overnight you
could save 8%, or \$32.00 a season.

Over 65 or have chronic illness?

Check with your doctor about what
temperature is recommended, day & night.

**Often home
alone in a big house?**

Could you just heat the rooms
you spend time in? And wear layers, drink
warm beverages, move around frequently or use
a blanket on your lap when sitting for long periods.

*** For more information,**
especially if you have a heat
pump, electric resistance
heating, steam heat, or
radiant floor heating, see:
[http://energy.gov/energysaver
/articles/thermostats](http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/thermostats)

Cost: \$0

Est. Savings: \$30 – \$60/yr.

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In February

Task of the Month

Install and use a programmable thermostat*



* Vectren offers \$20 rebates on programmable thermostats for customers who heat with natural gas, or \$100 off wifi-controlled models. See:

<http://tinyurl.com/2015-rebates-Vectren>

Properly using a programmable thermostat in your home is one of the easiest ways you can save energy and money. It allows you to set your home's temperature for different times of day, for heating and cooling, saving energy when you are asleep or away.

But if you have a heat pump, be sure to follow the recommendations:

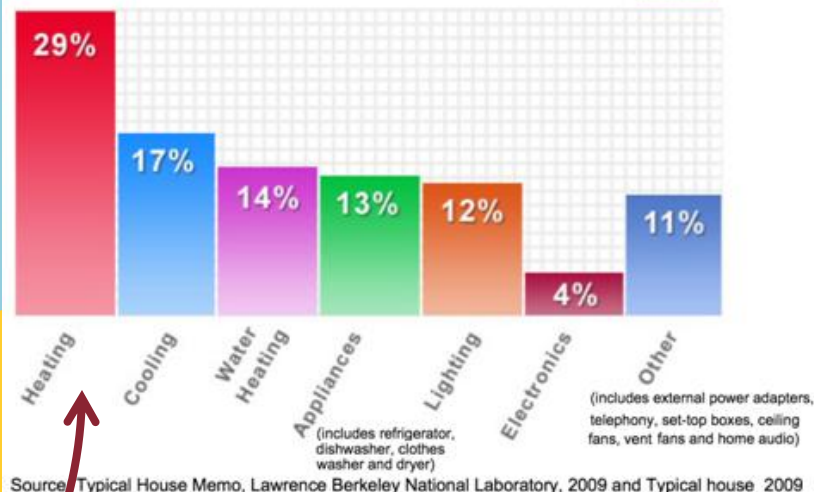
<http://energy.gov/energy-saver/articles/thermostats>

Won't it take more energy to reheat my home?
No! That's a myth! See:
<http://tinyurl.com/thermostat-setback-facts>

Heating and cooling account for the largest percent of energy use in the typical home.

Where Does My Money Go?

The annual energy bill for a typical single home is approximately \$2,200.



Cost: \$40-\$80*

Est. Savings: \$60/year

Difficulty: Moderate

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





In March

Task of the Month

Seal large air leaks

*Insert an [inflatable draft stopper](#) in your fireplace



*NEED HELP FINDING LEAKS?

Eligible Duke customers can have a **free** [Home Energy House Call](#)

An energy efficiency expert will walk through your house and point out problem areas.

Where to look for leaks?

- Fireplace dampers*
- Electrical outlets
- Switch plates
- Door and window frames
- Electrical and gas service entrances
- Baseboards
- Weather stripping around doors
- Attic hatches.
- Around wall or window air conditioners.
- Cable TV and phone lines
- Where dryer vents pass through walls
- Vents and fans.

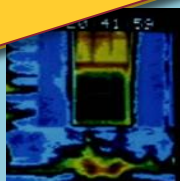
Air leaks can be like leaving a window open all the time! Cover or fill gaps with rigid insulation board, expanding foam or caulk.



Can I get professional help finding leaks?*

Yes. The Monroe County Energy Challenge is seeking discounts for thermal imaging & blower door tests.

Blower doors pull air through cracks and gaps, making leaks easy to find.



Thermal cameras can show the effectiveness of your insulation.



Cost: \$15 - \$300

Est. Savings: \$70/year

Difficulty: Moderate

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In April

Task of the Month

Replace seven incandescent light bulb with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs) or LEDs*

Eligible Duke Energy customers can get free CFLs when they have a Home Energy House Call.

WHY CHANGE MY LIGHT BULBS?

A compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) will save about \$30 over its lifetime and pay for itself in about 6 months. They use 75% less energy and last 8 to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs.



***When to consider Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)?**
LEDs have a higher up-front cost ($\pm 4x$) than CFLs, but last much ($\pm 6x$) longer (25,000+ hours) so pay for themselves in a few years. Many are dimmable.
Quality varies; look for **ENERGY STAR®** bulbs.

CFLs last longer if not turned off and on too frequently. The Department of Energy recommends turning off fluorescent lights if you expect to be out of a room for over 15 minutes.

Duke also provides energy efficiency kits, including 12 free CFLs, to eligible lower-income homeowners and renters. Contact South Central Community Action Program at (812) 339-3447 or SCCAP.org.

Cost: \$0 to \$25*

Est. Savings: \$40*/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for Earth Care Bloomington an affiliate of Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In May

Task of the Month

Have your AC unit professionally serviced; clean refrigerator coils*

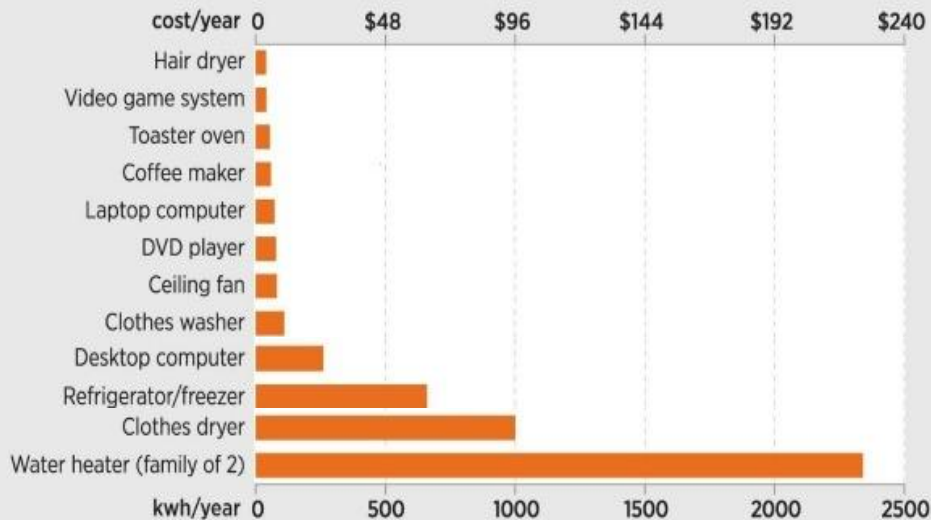
*** Ready to replace your refrigerator or freezer?**

Top or bottom freezers are more efficient than side by side models, as are those without an in-door water or ice dispenser.

But don't keep your old, inefficient model in your garage!
Duke Energy will pay you \$50 to pick up and recycle it.



How Much Energy Do Appliances Use?



How else could I save?

For better efficiency, indoor air quality, and savings be sure to clean or replace dehumidifier & AC filters frequently this spring and summer.

Cost: \$60

Est. Savings: \$60/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In June

Task of the Month

Wash clothes in cold water; air dry clothes



If replacing your washer, consider a front loader. They use less water, and their faster spinning means clothing is less damp at the end of the wash cycle, so need less time to dry.



Look for ENERGY STAR models.

Appliances account for
13% of a typical home's
energy use.

Clothes dryers

are 2nd only to water
heaters in energy used, so
washing in cold water and
hanging you clothes to dry
both save you money!

How Much Electricity Do Appliances Use?



Use a cold -water detergent. And to save
energy, try to wash only full loads.

Cost: \$0

Est. Savings: \$90/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com

What if my laundry is very dirty?

Presoak heavily soiled clothes in cold water
or use warm water to wash & cool to rinse.

Air dry year 'round!

Hanging clothes indoors in the
winter *improves* comfort since
heating dries your indoor air.



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In July

Task of the Month

Set your AC thermostat to 78°F or higher*

On cool nights, exhaust the hot indoor air by pulling cooler air from outside across your house or out upper windows.

If your house is too humid, set your AC to come on early in the morning to reduce the humidity.



*** How can I keep cool on a hot day?**
Run a ceiling fan in the room you are in, drink cool liquids and dress appropriately.

Ceiling fans help you feel cooler; but turn them off when you leave a room!



Humidity Problems?

Try running your AC early in the morning to reduce humidity, then turn up the thermostat and close the blinds or curtains to keep out the hot sun.

Keep your cooling and heating system at peak performance by having a contractor do annual pre-season check-ups.

What should good service include?

See the ENERGY STAR checklist at:
<http://tinyurl.com/HVAC-maintenance>

Cost: \$0

Est. Savings: \$30/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In August

Task of the Month

Cut phantom energy loads by half or more



Use surge protector to shut off whole systems



What are phantom loads?
Most electrical and electronic devices, from phone chargers to computers, draw current even when turned off.*

*Turn off your lights, fans & electronics when you expect to leave a room for more than 10 or 15 minutes

WHERE CAN YOU CUT PHANTOM LOADS?

- ✓ Enable power management features on your computers and printers.
- ✓ Turn your computer and monitor completely off when not in use.
- ✓ Plug home office and entertainment system components into a power strip that can easily be switched off when not in use (eliminating the need to unplug individual components).
- ✓ Also unplug cell-phone chargers, bread-, rice- and coffee- makers, dust busters and electric toothbrushes when not in use!

Cost: \$0 to \$15

Est. Savings: \$20/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created
by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In September

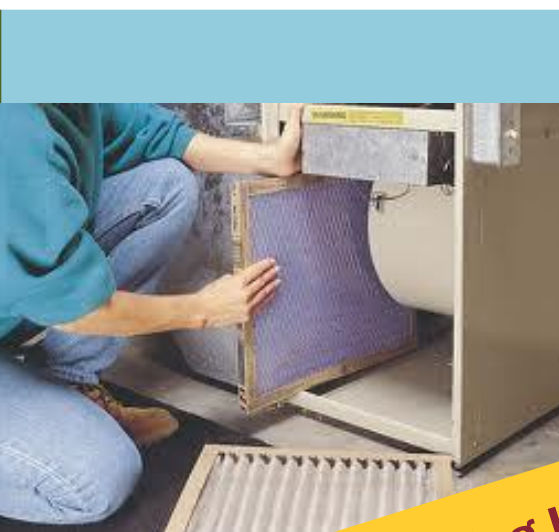
Task of the Month

Have your furnace professionally serviced and change your filters monthly for best results

What should good service include?

See the ENERGY STAR checklist at:

<http://tinyurl.com/HVAC-maintenance>



Save on your heating bills:
Keep your cooling and heating system at peak performance by having a contractor do pre-season check-ups.

Electric heat?

Ask about Duke Energy's low-cost HVAC Tune Ups, with incentives for improvements found by certified technicians.

How am I doing?

ENERGY STAR's Home Advisor

<https://www.energystar.gov/campaign/assessYourHome> will allow you to compare your home's energy use to that of homes of a similar size & age

And if you have your utility bills and car mileage from the past 12 months, you can calculate your family's carbon footprint at <http://tinyurl.com/HomeCarbon>

Cost: \$70

Est. Savings: \$80/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for Earth Care Bloomington an affiliate of Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In October

Task of the Month

Weatherize windows and doors



How effective are different window treatments?
Draperies in a solid weave and lined in a light-colored insulating fabric can cut heat loss by 10% and reduce heat gain in summer.*

*See this and additional suggestions for window treatments at:

<http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/energy-efficient-window-treatments>

Keep out the cold!

- ❑ Pull your blinds and/or curtains closed when away and at night.
- ❑ If you have storm windows, make sure both sets are tightly closed and locked.
- ❑ If you don't have storms, or still feel a draft, buy a kit with plastic sheeting.
- ❑ Do you feel cold air around your window frames? Rope caulk is easy to install and can be removed and reinstalled later.
- ❑ Take the dimensions and photos of your exterior doors to your local hardware store for help purchasing the correct weather stripping.

And remember to set your thermostat back down for the winter!

Cost:

varies

Est. Savings:

\$30/year

Difficulty:

Moderate

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for
Earth Care Bloomington
an affiliate of
Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light





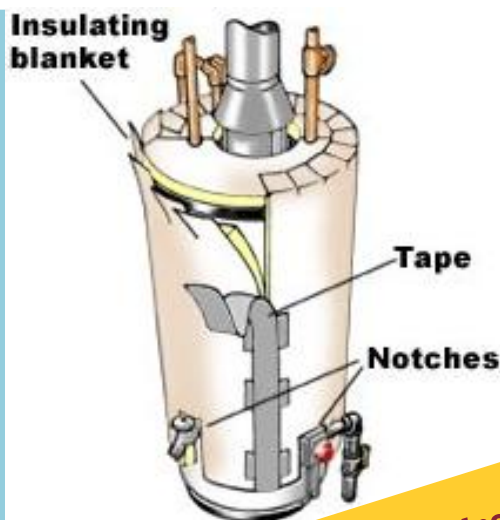
In November

Task of the Month

Insulate water heater and pipes; lower the water heater temperature to 120°F.

Heating water can use as much energy as the rest of an average household's (non heating/cooling) electric appliances combined.

Water Heater Blanket Kits are available for gas and electric water heaters, though gas are trickier to install. They can prevent up to 95% of their radiant heat loss.



Aren't water heaters already insulated?

Yes, but they can lose heat if located in an unheated space. If your water heater feels warm to the touch, you will save money and have more hot water by adding more insulation.

Hardware stores also carry foam tubes for different size hot water pipes. Insulating the pipes that take water from your heater to your faucets cost about 16¢ a foot and results in more savings.



Cost:	\$25
Est. Savings:	\$25/year
Difficulty:	Moderate

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us
MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com

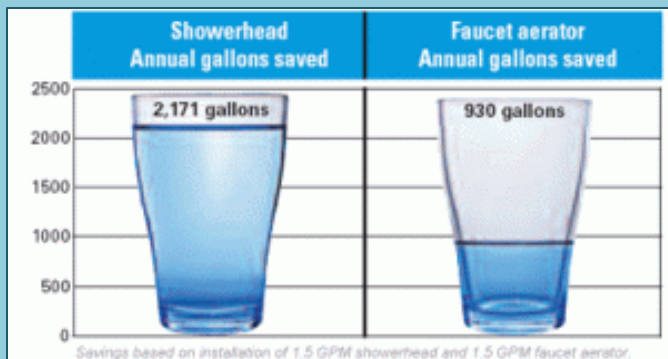


MONROE COUNTY
ENERGYCHALLENGE

In December

Task of the Month

Install low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators



Showering accounts for about 17% of a typical household's water use, faucets for 16%.

What uses the most water in our homes?
Toilets use over 25% of household water.
You could install a [Toilet Displacement Device](#) in the tank to save over a gallon per flush.



Duke customers may qualify for free faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads

As part of their free [Home Energy House Call](#) an energy efficiency expert will walk through your house, point out problem areas and install faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.

Using less hot water saves money on your electric or gas bills, too.

Saving water also saves electricity. It takes energy to pump water from its source to a water treatment plant, and it takes more energy to make it potable, and still more to get it to your house.

Cost: \$30

Est. Savings: \$20/year

Difficulty: Easy

See MoCoEnergyChallenge.org or email us MoCoEnergyChallenge@gmail.com



Task of the Month was originally created by Dr. Stephanie Kimball for Earth Care Bloomington an affiliate of Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

